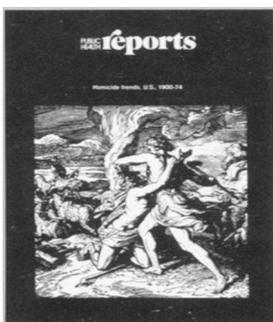


The National Health Planning & Resources Development Act



Cover—Components of the rising homicide rates in the United States and the changing patterns of homicide are the subject of the paper by A. Joan Klebba, which begins on page 195. The old woodcut on the cover depicts Cain slaying Abel, possibly the first reported homicide. Print courtesy of the Bettmann Archives

□ The National Health Planning and Resources Development Act is a vehicle that may help us arrive at a more rational means of planning for the delivery of responsive health services. The health systems agencies called for by the act will be responsible for developing a health services plan for areas with populations between 500,000 and 3 million, although there are some exceptions because of geography and political boundaries.

□ These agencies will review and approve applications for Federal dollars to support and develop health resources within that area. By setting up a locally oriented planning group and giving it authority to approve applications for Federal funds under the auspices of the plan, we in the Health Resources Administration hope that local decisions about the health system of any particular area will be made on the basis of a realistic assessment of the need and the capabilities within that area. In addition, development funds may be made available to the area health systems agencies to be used in helping to achieve the objectives of their approved plans.

□ As an experiment in regulation, the Secretary of Education, and Welfare will be able to award grants to States, on a demonstration basis, to see how rate regulation can be carried out and, through contracts, HEW will assist five public or nonprofit institutions in developing and operating multidisciplinary health care centers.

□ I believe the new health legislation gives us the means and the tools to create the kind of service systems that are efficient and responsive to all Americans.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K M Endicott". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Kenneth M. Endicott
Administrator